

20 October 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Telephone Conversation with John E. Griffiths

1. John E. Griffiths, representing himself as having an ~~intimate~~ connection with the Knox Panel, called me to tell me he had just reread my book and found the chapter on administration extremely interesting and relevant to philosophical problems before the Knox committee. He wanted to talk to me about these problems.

2. I explained to him (a) that the chapter was hopelessly out of date, (b) that the kind of job I had had in the Agency had made it possible for me not to have to agonize over the kind of administrative problem I discussed in the book, and (c) I was indeed one of the least well informed people on administrative philosophy that Griffiths could find in the entire Agency. I told him, however, that if he would write me a letter, setting forth the general areas of the subject which he wished to discuss with me, I would welcome the letter and would be glad to meet him man-to-man at some later date for a discussion.

3. In reply to my query he said yes of course he knew Bross and staff, and that [] was an old friend; that he had indeed talked administrative matters with them but still wished to talk to me.

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4. I have never met Mr. Griffiths -- a matter which he confirmed when I taxed him. He assured me that he was a member of the Knox Panel and possessed all of the necessary clearances. This assurance came after I had requested he clarify a statement which went, "I am sort of on the outskirts of the Knox Panel."

5. Before talking with him I will of course check with the security people as to the correctness of his claims in re clearances.



SHERMAN KENT

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